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YOUTH POWER WILL MAKE INDIA A DEVELOPED COUNTRY BY 2047: PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India's young population will power the country's rise towards becoming a developed nation

'CITIZENS' HELP NECESSARY TO REACH BIG GOALS'

Modi said it was time for a quantum leap. "Big targets have to be set for a country to march forward. This is what today's India is doing," he said, adding the government alone cannot drive the country forward and achieving ambitious goals requires participation of every citizen. Hosting the Olympics in the next decade is one of the goals, he said | P11

YOUTH ARE OWNERS OF VIKSIT BHARAT: PM

- Modi said he has full confidence the youth will realise 'Viksit Bharat' dream by 2047. He said the ownership in 'Viksit Bharat' is theirs too
- He was addressing the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue in Delhi to mark Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary. "Swami Vivekananda said youth will find solutions to all problems," he said

$10 trillion

WILL BE THE SIZE OF INDIA'S ECONOMY BY THE NEXT DECADE: MODI

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

EAM to attend Trump's inauguration

Jaishankar expected to have a short call with the new US President, Secretary of State

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** will be representing India at the inauguration of Donald Trump as the 47th President of the United States on January 20, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Sunday. According to sources, Jaishankar is likely to have a short call on with Trump as well as Marco Rubio, the incoming Secretary of State. The meetings are expected to set the tone for India-US relations under the Trump administration.

India-US relations have traditionally enjoyed bipartisan political support. However, Trump's inauguration comes amid concerns over trade disruptions due to his hawkish tariff policies. Trump has said he will strive to boost American manufacturing and cut down on international engagements.

Traditionally, US Presidential inaugurations are a low-key affair. However, Trump has extended invitations to leaders from a clutch of select countries including Chinese President Xi Jinping and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni. For India, the invitation was for Jaishankar.

"EAM will also have meetings with representatives of the incoming Administration, as also some other dignitaries visiting the US on that occasion," the Ministry of External Affairs said.

While bilateral ties under the outgoing Joe Biden administration saw improvement, such as the successful Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies, political ties were strained following Gurpatwant Singh Pannun murder plot.

Trump's tariff discussions and the policy of bringing manufacturing back to the US are raising concerns in India but New Delhi is optimistic about smoother bilateral relations. This confidence is based on the strong foundation of India-US ties and the personal rapport between Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

According to Jaishankar, India is better equipped to deal with these global disruptions. Speaking in Sydney last November, he had said: "There was already a reordering of supply chains, and this is likely to accelerate following the US election results. While some disruption may occur, India sees it as an opportunity."

ISRO to reassess strategy after space docking trial put on hold, yet again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WHAT looked like an inevitable achievement in the early hours of Sunday, was put on hold by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scientists, who are closely observing and controlling the two spacecraft of the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) mission.

After bringing the two spacecraft – SDX01 and SDX02 – as close to 230 metres on Saturday evening, at 3.11am Sunday, the ISRO team posted on 'X' that the two satellites were close to each other and were spotted from an inter-satellite distance of 105m. Later, at 5.17am, ISRO noted that the Chaser and Target spacecraft were clearly visible 15m apart, and posted, "We are just 50 feet away from an exciting handshake."

The news brought cheer among space science enthusiasts who are hoping for a successful maiden docking mission by ISRO.

A file picture of the two spacecraft, Chaser and Target | EXPRESS

Successful docking

A successful docking is when the two spacecraft lock into each other for easy transfer of supplies, equipment and even astronauts. Before this, the docking of SDX01 and SDX02 was twice postponed on January 7 and January 9

At 6.19am, the ISRO team shared the news that the two SpaDeX satellites had been put on hold position at 15m, along with photographs of the craft clearly visible at close range.

However, at 7.06am, the scientists decided to put on hold the docking exercise until further analysis. They said they were successful in bringing the spacecraft just 3m from each other. However, the scientists did not divulge the reason for moving the spacecraft away from each other to a 'safer distance', after they were close to complete the docking experiment, which is crucial for future Gaganyaan and Bharatiya Antariksh missions.

ISRO took to X to say: "A trial attempt to reach upto 3m from 15m is done. Moving back the spacecraft to safer distance. The docking will be done after analysing data further." P7

BORDER TENSIONS

B'desh conveys 'deep concern' to Indian envoy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

BANGLADESH on Sunday summoned India's High Commissioner in Dhaka and expressed its "deep concern" over the recent border tensions.

Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma was summoned after Dhaka accused New Delhi of violating a bilateral agreement by attempting to construct fences at five locations along the India-Bangladesh border.

"Foreign Secretary Ambassador Md Jashim Uddin today expressed deep concern of Government of Bangladesh to the High Commissioner of India Pranay Verma at his office at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs over the recent activities of the Border Security Force (BSF) of India along the Bangladesh-India border," the Bangladesh foreign ministry said. The meeting lasted 45 minutes, sources said.

"We have an understanding with regard to fencing the border for security. BSF and BGB have been in communication. We expect understandings will be implemented and there will be cooperative approach to combatting crime," Verma said.

The tensions come as the government says there has been a rise in the number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh entering India since the start of the political crisis there.

Leader of Opposition in Assembly R Ashoka visits the spot where miscreants inflicted injuries on the udders of three cows in Cottonpet in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

CM assures action

CM Siddaramaiah said cattle abuse is a crime and perpetrators would be punished. He was speaking to the media at Hoovina Hadagali in Vijayanagara district after a mass marriage function | P6

Tension flares after miscreants cut udders of 3 cows in Cottonpet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

TENSION flared up in the Cottonpet area in Bengaluru West on Sunday morning after unidentified miscreants inflicted injuries on the udders of three cows on Pension Mohalla Road behind Vinayaka Theatre. A large number of people gathered as the news spread, leading to tension.

The police said the incident came to light early on Sunday morning when a local resident noticed a pool of blood at the place where the cows were tied to a post on the roadside. He found injuries on the udders of three cows and alerted the cow owner, Karna, who stays 500 metres away from the spot.

Karna immediately informed a veterinary doctor and also called the police. The police visited the spot, recorded statements. Based on Karna's complaint, a case was registered under Section 325 (mischief by killing or maiming animals) of BNS and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

A senior police officer said that over six cows were tied on the roadside and of them, three had injuries. "While two cows had slash marks on their udder, the other's udder was mutilated. It is suspected that the accused used a blade to inflict injuries," he said. The police are analysing CCTV footage and are said to be questioning some suspects.

The incident sparked outrage among local residents, while right wing activists rushed to the spot and protested. Leader of Opposition R Ashoka, Bengaluru Central MP PC Mohan and others visited the site and spoke to Karna. The police had a tough time managing the crowd. A Karnataka State Reserve Police platoon was deployed. P6

EXPRESS READ

Devajit Saikia is new BCCI secretary

Mumbai: Devajit Saikia and Prabhtej Singh Bhatia were elected unopposed as new secretary and treasurer, respectively, of Board of Control for Cricket in India on Sunday. They were elected unopposed after being the only ones to file nomination for the posts vacated by Jay Shah and Ashish Shelar | P13

Security forces kill 5 Maoists in C'garh

Raipur: Five Maoists, including two women, were killed in an encounter in the Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh, about 400 kilometres south of Raipur on Sunday. "After the encounter, the forces recovered five bodies of Naxalites, including two women in uniform," a senior police official said | P12

KUMBH 2025

Where grandeur bumps into spirituality

PARAMITA GHOSH @ Prayagraj

AT the ground zero of Kumbh, Malwa's Baba Yashwant Swaraj — goggled, high, and trident-wielding — is having a ball. He says he is "wi-fi Insta famous", and pats the top of his trident on which he is convinced his guru, having shed his material form, sits as a flower. He gets a crowd but after a few minutes it moves on. At every bend in Kumbh, everyone is looking for a spectacle to match the hype.

Saurabh Basu, an advocate at the Allahabad High Court, says that for ages, there has been no business in Allahabad as profitable as the Kumbh. "It was so when it was a Mughal city; now when it's Prayagraj, it gives the riverine economy a boost."

For the 40 crore devotees expected to land in Prayagraj for the Kumbh, said to be the largest congregation anywhere in the world, the main target are the Shahi Snans, the first of which is on January 14 (Makar Sankranti). And there have been early movers, who have already made themselves home in the tent-city. While some seek spiritual enlightenment, others are drawn to the luxury and convenience offered by the Kumbh Mela. Somesh Tripathy, an advertising personnel from Noida, is here for the holy dip. So is Puspendra Singh from nearby Pratapgarh.

Baba Yashwant Swaraj, who claims he is a rage on the internet, at the Kumbh in Prayagraj on Sunday. The mela kicks off on Monday | PARAMITA GHOSH

Judy, a New Yorker, has opted for a ₹3-4 lakh per night tent, complete with yoga facilities and a stunning view of the Sangam. "The moment I saw those cottages I knew I had to be here," she said.

In contrast, the kalpavaasis, or short-term dwellers leading an austere life at the Kumbh, can stay in tents free of charge. "There is convenience at the Kumbh for every class. If God has given you wealth, you stay in luxury tents," says Anand Shukla, a priest from Mumbai, whose father did kalpavaas during Kumbh in the past.

CONTINUED ON: P12

MAHAKUMBH DECODED

Total area **10,000 acres**

Budget **₹75,000 cr**

State's budget **₹54,000 cr**
Centre's budget **₹21,000 cr**

Total Snans **Six** (Jan 13, Jan 14, Jan 29, Feb 3, Feb 12, Feb 26)

Each snan takes off with bathing of saints and seers of **13** different Akharas

13 Akharas divided into 3 categories Sanyasi, Bairagi and Udaseen

Total ghats: **41**

Expected footfall on snan days **2 crore**
On Jan 29 snan: **8-10 crore**

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